

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Rejection of claims 1-3 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 10e(a):

Claims 1-3 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Steenbrugge (US 6,076,062) in view of Asano (US 2006/0026444).

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Response:

Claims 1-3 and 11-13 have been cancelled, and are no longer in need of consideration.

10 2. Rejection of claims 4 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Steenbrugge and Asano in view of Fujishita (US 6,988,013).

Response:

15 Claims 4 and 14 have been cancelled, and are no longer in need of consideration.

3. Rejection of claims 5, 15, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

20 Claims 5, 15, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Steenbrugge and Asano in view of Matsuura (US 2002/0181600).

Response:

25 Claims 5, 15, 19, and 20 have been cancelled, and are no longer in need of consideration.

As all pending claims 6-10 have been allowed, the applicant respectfully requests

Appl. No. 10/707,858
Amdt. dated January 18, 2008
Reply to Office action of November 19, 2007

that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

5  Date: 01.18.2008

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15